



## OVERVIEW

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# Overview

### Overview

This module provides an overview of the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System and the Incident Qualifications and Certification System (IQCS). The Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1) documents agreed upon standards that must be met by all participating agencies. This module will discuss how these standards relate to five participating agencies: 1) Bureau of Land Management, 2) Bureau of Indian Affairs, 3) National Park Service, 4) Fish and Wildlife Service, and 5) U.S Forest Service. These standards are the basis for determining whether an incident responder qualifies for any of the positions managed within IQCS.

The Incident Qualifications and Certification System (IQCS) is built to reflect the standards of the PMS 310-1 and other agency specific guidance, such as the US Forest Service FSH 5109.17. Each of the qualification criteria has been built into IQCS to automate qualification processing.

### Objectives

By the end of this module, you will be able to:

- Understand the historical development of the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System
- Identify and use the qualifications documents: the PMS 310-1 and the FSH 5109-17
- Understand how IQCS manages the qualification criteria
- Define “Roles” and “Permissions” as used in IQCS
- Define Terminology – SetID, Org Code, Unit ID

### Roles

**ALL** roles will participate in the activities described in this chapter.

## Activity Overview - History

In this activity, we will cover the historical background of the current Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1). Understanding how we arrived at our current qualifications system will help the users develop an understanding of the intent behind requirements of IQCS. While the development of IQCS is based on the requirements outlined in the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide, it is important for the user to understand that its validity is dependent on the responsible actions of people using the system.

## Instructions

The instructor will review the historical development of the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System.

### Historical Background on the Development of the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System

1976	National Wildfire Coordinating Group (NWCG) established
1974-1978	National Interagency Fire Qualifications System (NIFQS) developed and implemented
1974-1982	NIFQS training courses(S-courses) developed
1974-1982	Incident Command System (ICS) developed through FIREScope
1982	National Interagency Incident Management System (NIIMS) developed and adopted by the NWCG. Combined ICS and NIFQS
1991	NWCG approved a proposal for a performance based qualification system, and a new curriculum composed of All Risk courses (I-courses), suppression skill courses (S-courses), and job aids, and funded it for implementation over a ten-year period.
1993	Proposal for the Prescribed Fire training and qualification system approved for implementation by the NWCG
2000	Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide published.
2001	Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System National Training Curriculum completed
2006	Wildland Fire Qualification System Guide (NWCG 310-1) updated

## Activity Overview – Agency Qualification Criteria

In this activity, you will locate and examine the qualification criteria within the Wildland and Prescribed Fire Qualification System Guide (PMS 310-1) and the FSH 5109-17. We will also discuss where the qualification criteria are located within the IQCS application. IQCS can be customized to contain agency specific requirements as well. To determine qualifications, IQCS compares the responder's training, experience, and other accomplishments (referred to as COMPETENCIES) to the qualification criteria, PMS 310-1, FSH 5109-17, and other agency specific policy documents.

## Example Instructions

1. View the requirements for Crew Boss (Single Resource) as stated below in the extract from the PMS 310-1.
2. Compare these requirements to the requirements stated in the extract from the FSH 5109-17.
3. View the example from IQCS defining the requirements for CRWB SetID FS000.

The PMS 310-1 can be found at the following web site.

<http://www.nwcg.gov/pms/docs/PMS310-1.pdf>

Below is an extract from PMS 310-1, showing the qualification criteria related to a Single Resource Crew Boss.

### **CREW BOSS, SINGLE RESOURCE (CRWB)** (Position Category: Wildland Fire)

#### **REQUIRED TRAINING**

Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior (S-290)  
Crew Boss (Single Resource) (S-230)  
Annual Fireline Safety Refresher (RT-130)

Requirements for CRWB  
as defined in the 310-1

#### **REQUIRED EXPERIENCE**

Satisfactory performance as a Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1)  
+  
Successful position performance as a Crew Boss, Single Resource (CRWB) on a wildland fire

#### **PHYSICAL FITNESS LEVEL**

Arduous

#### **OTHER POSITION ASSIGNMENTS THAT WILL MAINTAIN CURRENCY**

Any single resource boss (DOZB, FELB, FIRB, ENGB, TRPB, HELB)  
Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)  
Any higher position for which this position is a prerequisite

#### **OTHER TRAINING WHICH SUPPORTS DEVELOPMENT OF KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS**

Basic ICS (I-200)  
Followership to Leadership (L-280)  
Basic Air Operations (S-270)  
Interagency Incident Business Management (S-260)  
Ignition Operations (S-234)

4. Navigate to Workforce Development>Competency Management>Assign Role Competencies>Competencies and search for CRWB. The search will return CRWB for NWCG0 and FS000 Setid.
5. Select CRWB NWCG0 and click on the arrow next to Assign Cluster Competencies to view the cluster attached to CRWB for this Setid.

The Forest Service Fire and Aviation Qualifications Handbook (5109.17) can be found at the following web site.

[http://www.fs.fed.us/cgi-bin/Directives/get\\_dirs/fsh?5109.17](http://www.fs.fed.us/cgi-bin/Directives/get_dirs/fsh?5109.17)

Below is an extract from FSH Chapter 20, "Qualification and Certification." It illustrates the qualification criteria related to a Single Resource Crew Boss.

### **CREW BOSS (SINGLE RESOURCE) (CRWB)\***

Position Category: Wildland Fire

#### **310-1 REQUIRED TRAINING**

S-290 Intermediate Wildland Fire Behavior

S-230 Crew Boss (Single Resource)

RT-130 Annual Fireline Safety Refresher

Requirements for CRWB as defined in the 5109-17.

#### **FOREST SERVICE ADDITIONAL REQUIRED TRAINING**

I-200 Basic Incident Command System

IS-700 National Incident Management System (NIMS), An Introduction

L-280 Followership to Leadership

S-234 Ignition Operations

S-260 Interagency Incident Business Management

S-270 Basic Air Operations

#### **310-1 REQUIRED EXPERIENCE**

Satisfactory performance as a Firefighter Type 1 (FFT1)

+

Successful position performance as a Crew Boss, Single Resource (CRWB) on a wildland fire

#### **310-1 PHYSICAL FITNESS LEVEL**

Arduous

#### **310-1 OTHER POSITION ASSIGNMENTS THAT WILL MAINTAIN CURRENCY**

Any single resource boss (DOZB, FELB, FIRB, ENGB, TRPB, HELB)

Incident Commander Type 4 (ICT4)

Any higher position for which this position is a prerequisite

The screen below illustrates how IQCS allows its users to link to the authoritative sources of Qualification Criteria.

The screenshot shows the 'Career Path' tab in the IQCS system. A callout box points to the '310-1' link in the 'Career Path' section, stating: 'Links to the reference documents can be found in the Career Plan component of IQCS.'

**Menu:**

- Search:
- My Favorites
- Workforce Administration
- Benefits
- Workforce Development
  - Competency Management
  - Needs Assessment
  - Career Planning
  - Review Career Summaries
  - Track
  - Competencies/Accomps
  - Prepare Evaluation/Career Plan
  - Reports
  - Create Career Plan

**Career Path Details:**

Flowers, Dewey ID: 00000000032 Empl Rcd#: 0

Effective Date: 10/24/2003 Career Plan Review Date: 310-1

Agency Code: BLM00 Bureau of Land Management

Position: 0455H

## IQCS Cluster Competencies

A *cluster* is a group of competencies and accomplishments. By defining a cluster and assigning it to a position, you automatically assign all of the individual competencies and accomplishments to that position.

The screenshot shows the 'Assign Competencies' screen. A callout box points to the 'Position Checklist' link, stating: 'IQCS Cluster - Position criteria as defined in the 310-1.'

Another callout box points to the 'Assigned Cluster Competencies' table, stating: 'Agency specific criteria in addition to the requirements in the 310-1.'

**Assign Competencies Details:**

SetID: FS000 Org ID: Job Code: CRWB

Effective Date: 01/01/1940 Position Checklist

**Assigned Cluster Competencies**

Cluster	Competency Description	Reqd. for Task Book
CRWB	CRWBTB Single Resource Boss PTB	
CRWB	FFT1 Adv Firefighter/Squad Boss	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CRWB	FITCAT Fitness Category	
CRWB	S-230 Crew Boss (Training)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
CRWB	S-290 Interm Wildland Fire Behavior	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

**Assigned Competencies**

Category	Competency	Reqd. for Task Book
<input type="checkbox"/> Training	Basic ICS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Training	Fire Ops Urban Interface	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Training	Ignition Operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Training	Interagency Busi Mgmt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<input type="checkbox"/> Training	Basic Air Operations	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Buttons: Save, Return to Search, Next in List, Previous in List, Notify

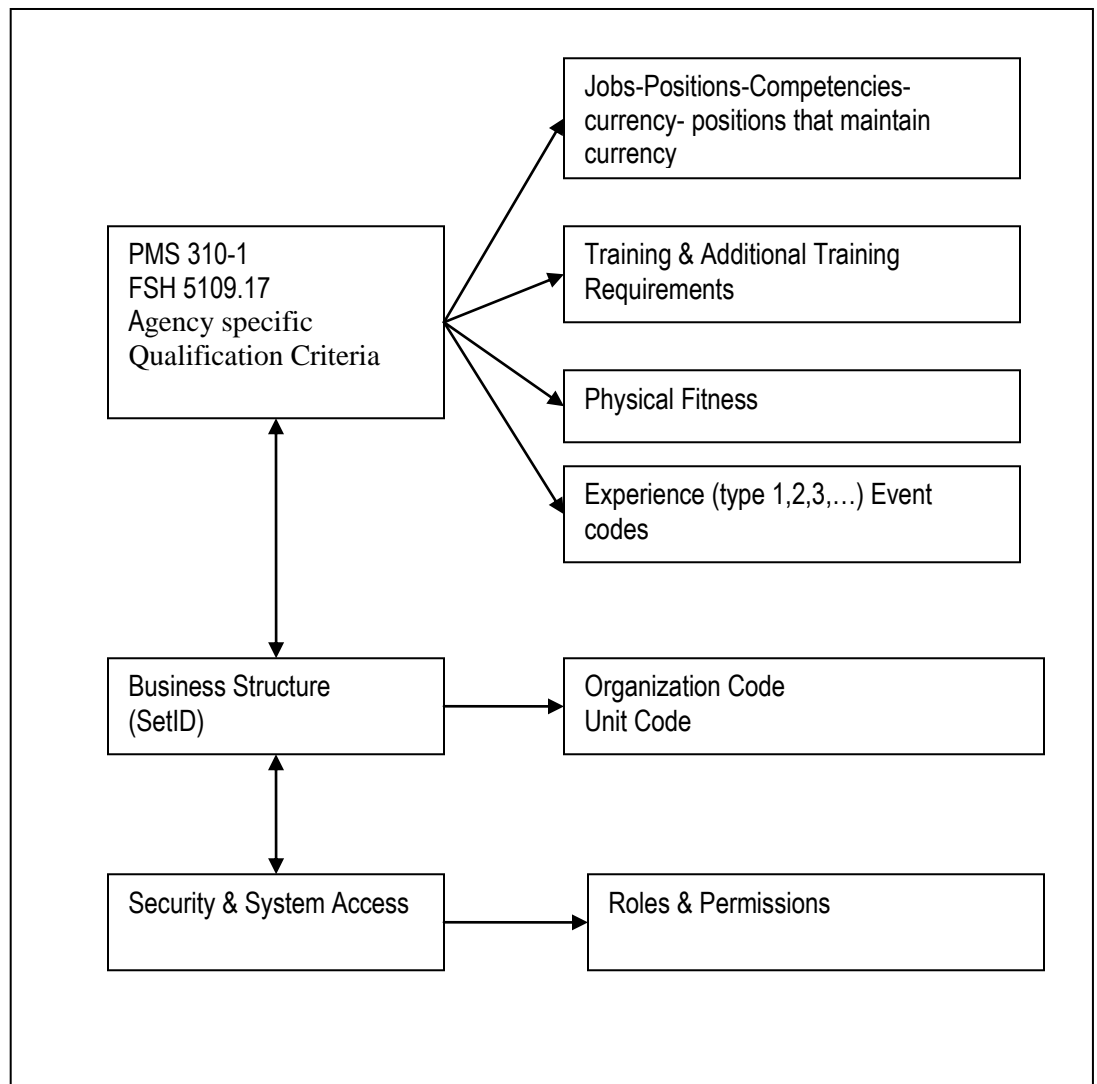
Links: Assign Competencies | Rank Competencies | Rate Competencies | Role Descriptions

## Tying It All Together

IQCS is built using the qualification criteria illustrated in the diagram below. IQCS is able to apply agency specific criteria to determine qualifications and share those criteria with other organizations.

When building the IQCS, special consideration was given to the complex nature of the organizational structure of the incident response community. Agencies and units are used in the system to apply qualification criteria and organize data for reporting and analysis.

IQCS uses role-based security that allows users to access only information defined by their role in the system.



New terminology in IQCS relates to the structure depicted above. The organization is built in trees using agency organization codes as defined by the National Business Center and the National Finance Center. At the top of the tree is the company.

- Company – NWCG = National Wildfire Coordinating Group

Next in the tree are the business groups or agencies, represented by a Setid which is five (5) characters long. The Setid defines the agency a person works for; it also defines the position criteria an employee is subject to.

- **Setid** – BIA00, BLM00, FS000, FWS00, NPS00.

The Setid here is the agency the employee works for.

The Setid for location will ALWAYS be NWCG0

**Look Up Setid**

SetID: begins with [dropdown]  
Description: begins with [dropdown]

Look Up Clear Cancel Basic

**Search Results**

SetID	Description
BIA00	Bureau of Indian Affairs
BLM00	Bureau of Land Management
FS000	Forest Service
FWS00	Fish and Wildlife Service
NPS00	National Park Service

Other Setid's include NWCG0 and OPM00.

- OPM00 Setid is used to define an employee's job series.
- NWCG0 is the Setid used when more than one agency uses the same criteria.
  - NWCG0 is used to define the position criteria as defined in the 310-1.
  - FS000 is used to define the position criteria as defined in the 5109-17.
  - NWCG0 is used for the Location Code table.

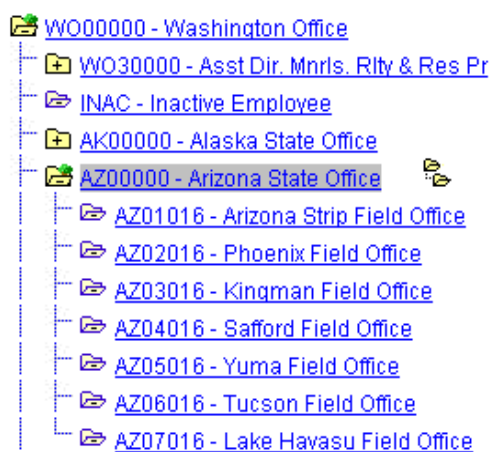
*Position criteria as illustrated above are based on the 310-1, the 5109-17, and agency documents that define agency specific positions such as RXB3.*

**Organization ID's** have been taken from the system of record for the DOI and Forest Service. You may know these codes as your office code. Below are illustrations of the Organization tree for each of the participating agencies.

#### BIA Org Tree EXAMPLE



#### BLM Org Tree EXAMPLE





**FS Org Tree EXAMPLE****FWS Org Tree EXAMPLE****NPS Org Tree EXAMPLE****Unit ID EXAMPLE**

View All

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Unit ID	Description
CA	California Geographic Area
CA-AFV	Vandenburg Air Force Base
CA-ANCC	Angeles National Forest Dispatch
CA-ANF	Angeles National Forest
CA-BBD	Bakersfield District
CA-BDCC	San Bernardino Command Center
CA-BDF	San Bernardino National Forest
CA-BECC	San Benito Monterey Command Center
CA-BNP	Lava Beds NM
CA-BTCC	Butte Command Center
CA-CAA	Central California Agency
CA-CAP	Cabrillo NM

Unit Codes or Unit IDs in IQCS are based on the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) Unit ID list. NICC is the system of record for Unit IDs; you can view this information on the NIFC web page. In IQCS, Unit IDs are associated with Organization Codes in IQCS set up tables. On the Job Data page, once the org code is entered, the Unit ID associated with that Org will be the only available choice in the lookup tables.



## Activity Overview – A Short History of User Roles

IQCS security is roles and permission-based. Who and what the user is able to see and do in IQCS is based on their roles and permissions.

A role defines what page(s) the user can see.

- What menus you see are set at the role.
- What tabs appear when you access a component are set at the role.

A role defines what actions a user can perform on the page(s).

‘User Actions’ include:

- Display Only (no data changing or manipulating)
- Add rows (to add new data or history)
- Update/display rows/pages
- Correction (to change or correct existing data)

A permission list determines WHO the IQCS user may transact upon.

Permission to access an employee's records is usually restricted to records of the organization code to which the user belongs.

A person MAY be authorized to see and/or transact upon other agency (ies') employees' records, but only with specific approval of the agencies and organizations involved.

However, Course Session enrollment is not restricted to those employees within your permission list.

They both come together, when an IQCS User ID is assigned to a user,

- 1) a Permission List is assigned that identifies WHO can be seen,
- 2) a Role, or many Roles, is assigned that identifies WHAT pages can be seen.

Therefore, this defines what tasks can be performed for a defined group of employees.

For example, an Account Manager can initiate a taskbook but a Certifying Official must certify the taskbook.

The user is assigned a single User ID and your own password to log in and see every page, field, menu, and component as identified by your list of roles.